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SUBJECT Economic Information: Conditions under the Communists, Chefoo

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EVALUATION OF SOURCE

EVALUATION OF CONTENT

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1. Business Conditions: Economically, Chefoo remains stagnant. With the exception of the food market, all shops are closed. Lacking regular incomes, most of the people have been forced to sell personal belongings in order to support themselves (as previously reported). Some relief measures have been instituted, extending even to foreigners without means, but assistance thus provided is insufficient. No factories have reopened. Chefoo's renowned orchards have been stripped to provide firewood for the electric power plant and for fuel, since no coal shipments have been brought from Manchuria.
2. Traffic between Chefoo and Manchuria has decreased considerably of late as a result of the Nationalist naval blockade. (Tsingtao note: According to fairly reliable Chinese navy sources, the Nationalist campaign to prevent merchant shipping between Dairen and Chefoo has met with only moderate success because of the lack of sufficient patrol vessels. Hence, any decrease in traffic is probably attributable to other factors.)

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